

AGENDA: September 10, 2002

4.17

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Public Works

TITLE: Miramonte Reservoir Expansion,
Project 97-45 – Amend Contract for
Environmental Consulting Services

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the professional services contract with Jones & Stokes for additional environmental consultant services related to the Miramonte Reservoir Expansion, increasing the contract by \$27,000 to a total of \$150,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

In December 2000, the City entered into a \$123,000 professional services agreement with Jones & Stokes to provide environmental consultant services to analyze environmental impacts related to the project and produce an environmental impact report (EIR). Due to the number and complexity of public comments on the Draft EIR, a \$27,000 increase in the contract amount is required, increasing the adjusted contract to \$150,000.

Miramonte Reservoir Expansion design, Project 97-45, has a budget of \$951,300. No additional appropriation is necessary as there are sufficient funds in the project to cover the cost.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In 1997, a capital improvement project was approved to design an additional two-million-gallon reservoir on the existing Miramonte Reservoir site. During the preliminary design phase, the City met with residents adjacent to the site and with the Los Altos City Council to hear their concerns related to the project. Concerns related to the safety of the existing and proposed reservoirs during an earthquake, temporary impacts associated with construction and the aesthetic impacts of the project. In light of these concerns, the City Council commissioned an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to thoroughly analyze the environmental impacts and alternatives to the project.

Jones & Stokes was hired in December 2000 to prepare the required environmental documents for the project. Their scope included preparing the Notice of Preparation for the EIR, holding a public scoping meeting, preparing the Draft EIR (DEIR) for public review and comment, holding a DEIR public meeting and, finally, responding to comments and preparing the Final EIR.

After the public scoping meeting, as Jones & Stokes prepared the DEIR, it became apparent that additional work would need to be done to thoroughly complete the DEIR. Some of this extra work included preparing an alternatives screening report to identify the project alternatives to be studied in the DEIR, incorporating more detail on each alternative into the DEIR to make sure it encompassed all issues and preparing a second administrative draft of the DEIR to ensure all comments made by the City were incorporated in the Final DEIR.

Because of the costs associated with this extra work, an additional appropriation is needed to complete the Final EIR. In addition, due to the level of concern by neighboring residents, the number of public comments and the complexity of the environmental analysis, a \$4,500 contingency has been added to the contract. The estimated cost to complete the EIR process and prepare a mitigation monitoring plan with a \$4,500 additional services contingency is \$27,000.

The breakdown of cost for the additional work to complete the EIR is as follows:

Prepare Final EIR	\$11,000
Prepare Findings and Statement of Overriding Consideration	8,000
Prepare Mitigation Monitoring Plan and Notice of Determination	3,500
Additional Services Contingency	<u>4,500</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$27,000</u>

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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AMC/9/CAM

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